

FALL 2019

the Herald

A Kenrick-Glennon Seminary Publication

IN THE SCHOOL OF
Sacrificial Love

INCLUDES THE 2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT



LETTER FROM THE ARCHBISHOP

All of us have attended the
school of sacrificial love,
sometimes in big and
sometimes in small ways.



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In his Letter to the Colossians St. Paul says something curious: *"In my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ on behalf of his body, which is the Church"* (Col 1:24).

It might be difficult to explain what he means theologically. But I think all of us know what he means experientially. When our sufferings are united to Christ's they become a school of sacrificial love, in which we learn to live more deeply in him, and let him live more deeply in us.

My mom knew this. She knew it in a special way when my younger sister died just after birth. But I think she knew it every day, too. Like most moms, her day wasn't about her needs. It was about the needs of others, and she made a lot of sacrifices to meet those needs. I learned a lot in mom's school of sacrificial love.

My dad knew this too. At the end of his life, when he was dying from congestive heart failure, he offered his sufferings up for a family member who was going through a hard time. His suffering became a school of sacrificial love.

I've known it in my own life, too. I had cancer that almost took my life. I had both knees replaced. As a priest and bishop some of my assignments have brought me great joy, while others have been hard crosses. Every suffering I ever endured was a school, offering me lessons and opportunities for coming to a deeper union with Jesus.

All of us have attended the school of sacrificial love, sometimes in big and sometimes in small ways. And that forms a point of contact between each of us and every man at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary. Every seminarian is called to learn in the school of sacrificial love. The faculty and staff are there to help him do it well and deeply. And every seminarian has to learn there, because it will be a big part of his life as a priest.

Let's keep each other in prayer. Let's lift each other up – especially our seminarians – as each of us walks in the footsteps of Jesus, and we learn in the daily school of sacrificial love.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. Carlson
Archbishop of St. Louis

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Cover: Deacon Michael Meinhart,
Theology IV – Springfield, IL, distributes
communion to the faithful.

Cover photography by Lisa Johnston

Contributing Photographers:

Deacon Mark Aune, Theology IV – Bismarck
William Carey, Pre-Theology II – Kansas City in KS
Lisa Johnston
Christopher Kennebeck, College III – St. Louis
Jack McCoy, College II – St. Louis
Mary Serafino



Dear Friends,

Each year I choose a short spiritual book to share with the seminarians and faculty. This year's book, which also provides our theme for the year, is entitled *Remain in Me: Holy Orders, Prayer, and Ministry* by Deacon James Keating.

Every summer, I help to direct a 30-day silent retreat for priests, seminarians, and religious. As I was listening to the sharing of graces at the end of this past year's retreat, it became clear that "Remain in Me" also means "Relate to Me." During 30 days of silence, the retreatants all seemed to grow in the grace of being able to relate all of their thoughts, feelings, and desires more freely to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Perhaps this grace of "relating to God" throughout the day is best illustrated by the experience of one retreatant, Sr. Fiat Marie.

First, as she was walking the grounds, she told the Father that she would really like to watch the farmers bale the hay, because it reminded her of her home in Nebraska. Then, as she came to the top of the hill, a round baler towed by a tractor approached her! The driver stopped, opened the door, and began a conversation. While this is a silent retreat, there are graced moments when speech is called for! The farmer invited her aboard. She initially declined but then, after beginning to walk away, she reconsidered. She stopped, waved him down, and proceeded to ride the tractor with him. She enjoyed the experience, thanking God the Father for his particular care.



Sr. Fiat Marie shared an illustration of her experiences.



Second, while she was in the week of the retreat that focuses on Christ's Passion, she noticed my dog Gemma. The black flies were bad, constantly attacking Gemma's ears and making life pretty miserable for her. Gemma had also been bitten by another dog, and the resulting wound became infected, causing blood and water to flow from her side. It was a small thing. But Sr. Fiat Marie connected it to suffering of Jesus, and thanked him for providing such a real image for her.

Finally, Sister was praying with Jesus' invitation to Peter to get out of the boat and walk on the water. As she heard Jesus address this invitation to her, Sr. Fiat Marie honestly related her own reaction: "Jesus, are you crazy? Why would I get out of a perfectly good boat? I am not getting out! I am staying right here where it's safe." She spent the next few days in the boat of control, refusing to trust Jesus.

Then, on the day of repose (a break from the silence and a time of leisure), she decided to go canoeing with a seminarian. It turns out the seminarian had never been in a canoe before. So, sure enough, about thirty yards out, the seminarian fell into the lake, and the canoe began to take on water. Sr. Fiat Marie had a decision to make. So she held up her veil, and gently entered the water. The two of them proceeded to tow the canoe back to shore together.

Afterwards, Sr. Fiat Marie shyly admitted: "Jesus couldn't get me out of the boat ... but Brandon did!" She was able to see how Jesus used this experience to get her out of the boat and trust her spouse, Jesus, with everything.

God's particular love for Sr. Fiat Marie came home to her in multiple, concrete ways during the course of the retreat. Each one deepened her ability to relate everything to Jesus and to remain with him in all things.

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Something Good will Come of It

360 Days at Old Antonia

By Jonathan Ruzicka, Theology III — St. Louis

Dedicated to my former students: 6B, 6C, and 7M.
Thank you for being the best part.



I did not become more “pastoral” on the Pastoral Internship.

To the ears of many, this may sound like a failed objective, an opportunity missed. I can’t say I was thrilled about the Internship at the outset. I was promised that something good would come of it. Only now, after the experience, do I fully understand.

On August 10, 2018, I moved my belongings into the rectory of St. Joseph Parish off Old Antonia Road in Imperial, MO. Unknown to me, I was about to embark upon an incredible and unpredictable journey. I hit the ground running. After the weekend marathon of introductions, I jumped right into faculty meetings on Monday and Tuesday, the Solemnity of

the Assumption on Wednesday, and the first day of school on Thursday.

I was assigned to teach religion classes every day in the middle school. This was, without a doubt, a daunting prospect. Never before had I been entrusted with such a serious responsibility. Every time I entered the classroom, I felt the weight of the responsibility of forming young minds. Teaching PSR once a week in college seminary did not compare to this.

“I’m scared of messing this up,” I confided to a trusted friend. “Oh, you will!” he assured me. He was right.

Mr. Almond, the middle school science teacher, likened me to a “deer caught in the headlights” when recalling the first time I stepped into his classroom to teach my first class of 6th graders. He was being generous; I was nothing short of terrified. It was a challenge to navigate those first couple weeks of teaching – a profound lesson in humility.

The three classes I taught, two sections of 6th grade and one of 7th, showed me what it truly means to be a spiritual father. In seminary, I learned the theory of spiritual fatherhood. The Pastoral Internship gave me the experience, and it was undeniably powerful. Teaching became the crowning jewel of my internship experience.

RECTORY LIFE

At St. Joseph, I also profited from experiencing leadership and rectory life done well. My relationship with my supervisor, Fr. Dan Shaughnessy, Class of 2012, was definitely a highlight of my Internship. Fr. Shaughnessy showed himself to be a committed pastor, sympathetic mentor, and formator. He could effectively challenge me because I knew he supported me. At least four nights per week, we sat down together for Evening Prayer, followed by dinner. Even if our busy schedules interrupted these scheduled meetings, we made time to check-in with one another throughout the day, as best we could.

However, “rectory life done well” does not mean the absence of conflict. Whenever there was tension or a disagreement,

we voiced our concerns with civility and transparency. I am edified by the docility and humility exhibited by both the pastor, Fr. Shaughnessy and the Associate Pastor, Fr. Tom Vordtriede, Class of 2014. These men showed me, by example, how to receive honest criticism and change accordingly. Moreover, they proved to be encouraging and empathetic mentors. For their steadfast example, I am deeply indebted.

I would describe life in the rectory at St. Joseph as remarkably healthy and life-giving with like-minded and sympathetic men. It was always a relief knowing that after a rough day of teaching, which inevitably happened on occasion, I had brothers in the rectory who were happy to listen and offer advice. This kept me well-grounded and allowed me to put situations in their proper perspective. Fr. Shaughnessy was especially good at challenging me to “get out of my head” and see the bigger picture.

FRATERNITY

Beyond the rectory, I came to a renewed appreciation for the necessity of fraternity and friendship with my brother seminarians. During the internship, I was blessed to have a rectory of men with whom I could share meaningful conversation and fraternal activity. However, I learned this was not enough. Maintaining close friendships with my brothers at the seminary proved to be an excellent source of

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(Fr. Mason continued from page 3)



Zane Williams
July 26 at 7:36 AM

So a couple of weeks ago we were bailing hay on Broom tree and I saw this young Nun watching intently, so stopped and asked if she wanted to ride for awhile.. We had a great conversation about The history of our farm and my life and she shared hers..She is a 2grade teacher and of course my mother loved teaching also..My fields and life are blessed to meet Sister Fiat Marie.. Christ the King School Sister's



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51 Comments 10 Shares

It's the same thing we hope to do for the seminarians, this year and every year.

Please keep us in your prayers as we try to help our seminarians relate all things to Jesus and remain in him. And don't be afraid to take the plunge in your own life!

In Christ,

Father James Mason
President-Rector



encouragement, affirmation, and leisure. It was comforting to know that I had support both in the rectory and beyond. Admittedly, fraternity was something I took for granted during my time in the seminary. In the parish, I quickly came to realize how this friendship is a necessity in good formation and ministry. I am excited to be back in the community where I'll continue to build the relationships I hope to carry throughout the whole of my priesthood.

The Lay Board was a welcome blessing for me. I was edified by these parishioners who were passionate about seminary formation. It was evident to me that their love for the Church was the animating principle behind their enthusiastic support of my continued formation outside the walls of the seminary. I cannot adequately express my gratitude for them.

PRAYER FIRST

My most strenuous experiences in the parish were the occasions when I put prayer on the backburner. The priest is, first and foremost, a man of prayer. If prayer is neglected, everything falls apart and nothing makes sense. As I return to the seminary, there is one thought at the forefront of my mind: prayer first.

With the internship concluded, I identify with the sentiments of St. Paul when he wrote to the Thessalonians, *"With such affection for you, we were determined to share with you not only the gospel of*

God, but our very selves as well, so dearly beloved had you become to us" (1 Thess 2:8). Sharing the gospel demands a gift of self to another; the two are inseparable. This, I believe, is

the most intimate aspect of priestly ministry. In preaching the gospel, we cannot help but share our very selves. Through parish ministry, I learned to share myself with the people of the parish. They experienced the "ordinariness" of my humanity, an ordinariness that was given over to something extraordinary.

The self-emptying of ministerial labor is incredibly fulfilling. Yet, it is also heartbreaking. It was tough to walk away from the parish after spending a year in daily service. The last day of school found me misty-eyed and dumbfounded at where all that time went. This is a holy pain – the ache of spiritual fatherhood. I found consolation in the words of St. Thérèse of Lisieux, *"Let us not believe we can love without suffering, without suffering much."* No disciple is greater than his master. My Master had His Heart pierced. So will I. So be it.

LEARNING HOW TO LOVE

There is no love without sacrifice. This became painfully evident to me as I said goodbye to the parish I grew to love so deeply. The Pastoral Internship was, in fact, for me a school of sacrificial love. It is something learned only through experience – in being loved, first and foremost, and then loving in return.

Thus, I say that I did not become more "pastoral" on the Pastoral Internship. Instead, I learned how to love. I was called upon to love freely and generously – not only when it "felt good" or was most convenient for me. This internship was but another facet of seminary formation, ordered toward stretching my capacity to give and receive love.

"And now I am simply resigned to see myself always imperfect," wrote St. Thérèse, *"and in this I find my joy."* After a year in the parish, I am acutely aware of how much I still need seminary formation. I am much weaker than I care to admit. Now, I approach seminary formation as a new man after having been fortified with a newfound maturity and confidence that can only be forged in the fires of experience.

There is no doubt that these next two years of formation will be fertile ground for continued growth in confidence and holiness. Something incredibly good will come of it. I wouldn't have it any other way.

St. Thomas More reminds us in a letter to his daughter, Margaret, "Nothing can come but what God wills. And I am very sure that whatever that be, however bad it may seem, it shall indeed be the best."

God's providence afforded me a Pastoral Internship — and it was, indeed, the best. ✚

After a year in the parish, I am acutely aware of how much I still need seminary formation. I am much weaker than I care to admit.



40 HOURS DEVOTION

Reigniting the Flame of that First Love

By Gregory Hilzendeger, Theology III — Bismarck

J.R.R Tolkien, renowned 20th century author and devout Catholic, once wrote of the Eucharist:

"Out of the darkness of my life, so much frustrated, I put before you the one great thing to love on earth: the Blessed Sacrament... There you will find romance, glory, honor, fidelity, and the true way of all your loves on earth..."

Acknowledging this great treasure of the Church, Christians have expressed their love for the Eucharist in the form of various devotions throughout the centuries. The 40 Hours Devotion is one such practice in which the faithful have approached the Blessed Sacrament, trusting that the Lord longs to pour out graces upon each soul, the whole world, and the souls in Purgatory.

Beginning in Milan, Italy, the 40 Hours Devotion spread in part through the influence of popular saints such as St. Philip Neri, St. Ignatius of Loyola, and St. John Neumann. This devotion consists of forty continuous hours of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament exposed upon the altar. The length symbolically represents the forty hours in which our Lord's body was reposed in the tomb before His resurrection.

Kenrick-Glennon Seminary's annual participation in this devotion takes place in February. Seminarians adore the Blessed Sacrament from Friday night until Sunday evening, some rising even in the night to come before our Lord in the Eucharist.

This devotion strikes at the heart of our mission at the seminary of preparing for the priesthood of Jesus Christ. In the awe of adoration, we experience the love of God in this great gift of mercy. After this time of abiding with Jesus, I find myself more firmly centered in Christ who is the source of strength and love. Eucharistic adoration has played a pivotal role in my vocation and those of many seminarians. Thus, this time of focused prayer reignites the flame of that first love, giving increased fervor for the journey which the Lord has set before us.

We also see in the Eucharist our mission as future priests. Kneeling before our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, we are in attendance at the school of sacrificial love. We learn from the One who gives of Himself unto death. We learn of a love which knows no bounds, which pursues the beloved heedless of the cost. Following Jesus on the way of the cross, we learn what it means to make a total gift of self. In the Eucharist, we see the priest and victim who we are called to become. ✚

Hope in the Face of Death

By Ryan Truss, Theology III — St. Louis

Every two weeks, seminarians meet for “Theological Reflection” in small groups to share a pastoral experience and discuss how God is present in it. The following article is adapted from a reflection that Ryan gave last spring.

While I was on pastoral internship I often visited the sick and homebound, including one elderly couple whom I will refer to as Paul and Janice. At that time, Paul was in the advanced stages of dementia while Janice, who had been faithfully taking care of him for years, had just been diagnosed with cancer. Janice enjoyed my visits because, although she was with her husband all day, his dementia prevented him from participating in conversation. Janice and I talked about everything: from the tractor supply store she and her husband once owned to the history of our parish and questions about the faith. She was simply happy to have someone who cared to listen and spend time with her.

WHAT IS HEAVEN LIKE?

There was a time after my internship, however, when I was unable to visit

Paul and Janice. When I finally knocked on their door one day, Janice did not answer. Instead, a woman dressed in scrubs came to the door and led me to Janice who was bedridden. I pulled a chair next to her bed while she told me she had just returned from being in the hospital for several weeks. The cancer had spread throughout her body and there was no longer any real hope of recovery. We prayed together and talked about her condition. Suddenly she paused and asked, “*What do you think Heaven is like?*” As I began to answer, I felt a wind of energy replace my initially somber demeanor. I compared Heaven to the feeling of peace we sometimes have after receiving Holy Communion. “*We wish these moments would last forever.*” I said, “*They are an experience of God’s love which makes us long for Heaven, where we will finally see Him*

face to face and rest in His love forever.” The look on Janice’s face now became filled with hope as she exclaimed, “*Wow. You really believe this!*”

Something still seemed to be bothering her. “*But what about purgatory?*” she asked. I assured her that God’s love is still present in purgatory, and that, in fact, it is His love which purifies us from our attachment to sin. At this, she seemed greatly relieved. I also told her that if she united her suffering with the suffering of Jesus on the cross, she could offer it for those she loved. This too would serve to purify her soul for Heaven.

I AM NOT AFRAID ANYMORE

For a time, I sat holding her hand in silence. When I started to go, Janice became teary eyed as she told me how

Throughout our conversation, Janice called me “Father.” When I reminded her that I am not a priest yet and am still a seminarian, she responded, “I know, but you’re a father to me.”



much she wished she could be at my ordination. Fighting back my own tears, I told her that she would be, together with the whole Communion of Saints. I also promised her that, once I am ordained, I will offer a Mass for her soul. As I left, she turned to me and said, *"Thank you. Before you came here, I was afraid, but I'm not afraid anymore. I think I'm ready to die now."* Janice died just a few days after our visit.

As I have prayed with these events, I am convinced that the "wind of energy" I experienced as I described Heaven was the Holy Spirit bringing His gift of counsel to life. But it wasn't just at that moment; the Holy Spirit was present throughout the time I spent with Paul and Janice. He was there when I held her hand in silence and could think of nothing to say. He was present in Janice herself, as she showed me the beauty of a holy death. He was even there as we talked about tractors — building trust — so that later when she heard the belief in my voice as I spoke of Heaven, she ceased to be afraid.

SPIRITUAL FATHERHOOD

Throughout our conversation, Janice called me "Father." When I reminded her that I am not a priest yet and am still a seminarian, she responded, *"I know, but you're a father to me."* Each time I return to this experience and her words, I am in awe at the spiritual fatherhood that God the Father shares with His priests. I am humbled to see how, by God's grace, I am growing into this fatherhood, even as a seminarian. I thank God for using me to bring Janice hope, and also for the way He used her to confirm my vocation. ✚



Responding "Yes" to the Lord's Call

By Charles Peirano, Theology II — Springfield-Cape Girardeau

I had been praying not to be assigned to study Spanish in Guatemala as a summer ministry assignment. I did not desire to avoid the assignment; I simply did not believe I was competent enough for such a large task. I made my desires clear to my bishop, even offering a few alternative options. As the deadlines for my alternative options passed, it became clear that I would probably be assigned to Guatemala. My focus shifted to praying for the grace to do whatever was asked of me.

January 29th was a typical day. I received a call from my vocation director who informed me that the bishop would be sending me to Guatemala for seven weeks to learn Spanish. I simply responded, *"Okay, when do I leave?"* I think we were both shocked at how smooth the conversation went. It was a moment of growth and grace.

Obedience to the bishop and other superiors had never been a struggle for me. I try to live in the world of, *"I will do whatever is asked of me."* Yet, the virtue of obedience had never been tested in such a way. The assignment to study in Guatemala, even though I agreed to go, was not easy to accept. I wrestled for a week with the idea of being away for an entire summer and the fears that come along with being in a foreign country. This scripture passage of Jesus speaking to Simon Peter immediately came to mind, *"When you were younger, you used to dress yourself and go where you wanted; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go."* he said to him, *"Follow Me."* JN 21:18-19

I was being lead where I did not want to go. It was important for me to realize that my assignment was not about my comfort or desires, but about laying down my life for those I will serve in the future. I cannot refuse what the Lord is asking of me. Rather, when asked, I can respond "yes" to the Lord's call to follow Him and feed His sheep. ✚

Charles Peirano (far right) with Chris Rumback and Dillon Cott, Theology III – Wichita, in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala.

ORDINATIONS

Thank you for your support for the 29 men ordained to the Sacred Priesthood and Transitional Diaconate this year. Strengthened by your prayers and encouragement, these men are ready to begin their new lives of ministry in dioceses throughout the Midwest.

ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD

KANSAS CITY IN KANSAS – MAY 25, 2019

Fr. Nicholas Ashmore
Fr. Colin Haganey
Fr. Joel Haug, A.V.I.
Fr. Mark Ostrowski

KANSAS CITY – ST. JOSEPH – MAY 25, 2019

Fr. Andrew Kleine
Fr. Emmanuel Lopez

OMAHA – JUNE 1, 2019

Fr. William Cremers

PHẬT DIỆM, VIETNAM – AUGUST 26, 2019

Fr. Khanh Pham

ST. LOUIS – MAY 25, 2019

Fr. Andrew Auer*
Fr. Samuel Inameti
Fr. Mark Madden
Fr. Anthony Ritter
Fr. Patrick Russell
Fr. Stephen Schumacher*
Fr. George Staley

WICHITA – MAY 25, 2019

Fr. Andrew Dellasega

ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE

BELLEVILLE – JUNE 8, 2019

Deacon Nicholas Fleming

BISMARCK – MAY 13, 2019

Deacon Mark Aune

KANSAS CITY IN KANSAS – MAY 18, 2019

Deacon Anthony Mersmann

KNOXVILLE – JUNE 15, 2019

Deacon Zachary Griffith
Deacon Alexander Hernandez

SIOUX CITY – MAY 31, 2019

Deacon Travis Crotty

SPRINGFIELD-CAPE GIRARDEAU – MAY 31, 2019

Deacon Daniel Belken
Deacon Allen Kirchner

SPRINGFIELD, IL – APRIL 26, 2019

Deacon Michael Meinhart
Deacon Michael Trummer
Deacon Dominic Vahling

ST. LOUIS – MAY 4, 2019

Deacon Christopher Smith
Deacon Dane Westhoff

**Fathers Andrew Auer and Stephen Schumacher studied at the Pontifical North American College in Rome. Fr. Auer is a graduate of Cardinal Glennon College and Fr. Schumacher completed our Pre-Theology program.*



Lori Wood Habiger for The Leaven



Jeff Geerling

1 Archbishop Joseph Naumann, Class of 1975, kneels to receive the first blessing of the newly ordained **Fr. Joel Haug, A.V.I.**, followed by **Fr. Nicholas Ashmore** in the Archdiocese of Kansas City, KS.

2 Directly after their ordination to the priesthood, seven new priests for the Archdiocese of St. Louis received their parish assignments for the coming year.

3 Newly ordained Transitional Deacons **Dominic Vahling** (left) and **Michael Meinhart** (right) attended the diaconate ordination of their classmate, Deacon **Mark Aune**, in Bismarck.



Diocese of Bismarck

NEW APPOINTMENTS



Fr. Paul Hoesing, Dean of Seminarians, is appointed Vice-Rector for Formation. Fr. Hoesing earned his licentiate in dogmatic theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome and was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Omaha in 2002. After serving in parishes for over five years, Fr. Hoesing was appointed Vocation Director for the Archdiocese of Omaha. Fr. Hoesing served as President of the National Conference of Diocesan Vocation Directors from 2013-2016.

Fr. Fadi Auro, Class of 2012, Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Formation Advisor, is appointed Director of Pre-Theology and Assistant for Formation. Fr. Auro, is a priest of the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Fr. Auro has served at Ascension Parish, the Cathedral Basilica, and St. Michael's Parish since his ordination. He is currently completing his doctorate with the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross.



Fr. Kristian Teater, CGC Class of 1996, Assistant Professor of Spiritual Theology and former Formation Advisor, is appointed Director of Spiritual Formation. Fr. Teater was ordained in 2000 after earning his licentiate in sacred theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. In addition to serving parishes in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, Fr. Teater has also served as Instructor in Moral Theology for Paul VI Institute, and as Formation Advisor, Assistant of Spiritual Theology, and Dean of Students at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary.

Fr. Donald Henke, CGC Class of 1988, Associate Professor of Moral Theology, is appointed In-House Faculty and Formation Advisor. Fr. Henke earned his licentiate in sacred theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University. He was ordained for the Archdiocese of St. Louis in 1993 and served at various parishes and as chaplain for the Missouri Air National Guard. Fr. Henke was the Academic Dean, Associate Professor of Moral Theology and a Formation Advisor at the Pontifical North American College in Rome from 2012-2016.



Dr. Stephen Fahrig holds an S.T.L. in Biblical Theology from Weston Jesuit School of Theology and an S.T.D. in Biblical Theology from Boston College's School of Theology and Ministry. He spent two years as a diocesan seminarian at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary and four years in formation with the Oblates of the Virgin Mary. He spent nine years working in parishes and nine years teaching at St. John's Seminary and Saint John XXIII Seminary in Boston. As Associate Professor of Biblical Theology, Dr. Fahrig brings a wealth of theological, pedagogical, spiritual, pastoral, and formational knowledge to our community.

FACULTY/STAFF ADDITIONS

MS. FRANCES BEHRMAN
Electronic Resources Librarian

MRS. JOANNE CRISCIONE
Assistant Director of Psychological and Counseling Services

DR. STEPHEN FAHRIG
Associate Professor of Biblical Theology

MR. ROB GERBER
Educational Technologist

MR. MIKE MCCLAIN
Housekeeping

MRS. JINI PAUL
Kitchen Attendant/Cook

MS. MOLLY WALSH
Stewardship and Events Coordinator

DEPARTURES

FR. LAWRENCE BRENNAN
Professor of Systematic Theology

DR. KEVIN CLARKE
Visiting Assistant Professor of Scripture

DEACON CHARLES DURBAN
Assistant Director of Psychological and Counseling Services

MR. PATRICK IVER
Director of Information Technology

FR. MARK KRAMER, S.J.
Director of Spiritual Formation

MSGR. GREGORY MIKESCH
Vice-Rector of Formation



THE CONVENT OF St. Therese of Lisieux

The sisters have expanded their ministry to nursing, teaching, caring for orphans, and, in the case of “our” sisters, prayerfully supporting future generations of priests.

When a priest alumnus returns to the seminary

for a visit, he almost always makes his way to the quiet, almost hidden wing of the building to visit five spiritual mothers in the Convent of St. Therese of Lisieux. The Carmelite sisters, all from India, have been serving the seminary community for 15 years.

The sisters’ order was founded by Mother Veronica of the Passion 150 years ago in Trivandrum, India with a mission to educate and catechize girls. Since then, the sisters have expanded their ministry to nursing, social work, teaching, caring for orphans and the elderly, and, in the case of “our” sisters, prayerfully supporting future generations of priests.

In 2004 the convent’s current superior, Sr. Rufina “Ruby,” was serving as a nurse in a large hospital in Delhi. The other sisters were working as teachers. “*The Church needs you in St. Louis,*” was the call communicated to them through their superior at that time. They responded simply, “yes.”

Practically speaking, the sisters’ main duties consist in working the kitchen. Every day (except Sunday) the sisters can be found in the kitchen, preparing meals for the entire community. It is estimated that the sisters make over 450 meals each day!

What seems a natural skillset to the sisters was actually one of their greatest challenges when they arrived at the seminary. Not only did the sisters have to adjust to the

language, climate, cuisine, and culture, they knew nothing about cooking. Sr. Ruby explained, “*As nurses and teachers in India, we were used to arriving to the table to eat meals already prepared. We knew nothing about how to prepare them.*”

Slowly, and with the help of seminary staff, the sisters learned how to cook and bake. Now, the sisters are famous for their cookies. Guests and seminarians alike refer to the sisters’ cookies with a sort of reverence. Yet, Sr. Ruby laughed when she considered, “*In India, we didn’t have cookies. We had biscuits. So when we came here, we had to learn what a cookie was before we could even learn how to make them.*”

“*We are not here for the cooking,*” Sr. Ruby remarked. “*We are happy to be here to serve the Church and seminarians. To pray for them and strengthen them to become future priests.*” The sisters join seminarians during holy hour each day. “*We are in there for them,*” Sr. Ruby explained. Their Masses and prayers throughout the day are also dedicated to the seminarians. And if any seminarian has a special intention to entrust to careful prayer, he goes to the sisters.

These religious sisters are spiritual mothers within our community. The return of seminarians as priests, year after year, is something the sisters look forward to in their work. Sr. Ruby shared, “*To see them ordained to the priesthood and to have them come and visit us in the years that follow – that is the best part of our work here!*” ✚

Top left: At the end of the school year, seminarians hosted the five Carmelite sisters for a thank you dinner in the student kitchen. From left to right: Sr. Assumpta, Sr. Rufina “Ruby,” Sr. Priscilla, Sr. Jeseentha, and Sr. Lissy. **Top right:** Sr. Rufina “Ruby” preparing to serve cookies. The sisters bake a fresh batch of cookies daily for the community.

Seminarian Answers

WHAT PRIEST IN YOUR LIFE REPRESENTS SACRIFICIAL LOVE AND WHY?



Benjamin Wanner, THEOLOGY II – BISMARCK



Fr. Daniel Collins (1841-1909) was born in Ireland and came to the United States when he was only three years old after the tragic death of his father. He gave all that he had to build my home parish - St. Joseph in Mandan, ND - including all his savings, paying for more than half of the project himself. He united the whole city, including the non-Catholics, so Mandan decided to name its central road "Collins Avenue." He is my priest hero for his heroic sacrificial love.

William Carey, PRE-THEOLOGY II – KANSAS CITY, KS



Seeing **my college chaplain** lay down his life for his flock was a great part of the reason why I converted to the Catholic faith. He was a sturdy pillar for me as I went through the ups and downs of college. There was a point at which I recognized that the gift of his priesthood, including the sacrifice of married family life, made possible the time he spent into the evening with groups of students.

Jacob Connealy, PRE-THEOLOGY II - OMAHA



My uncle is a priest in the Archdiocese of Omaha who has worked in hospital ministry for 20 years. Because of this ministry, he is often on call and misses out on many events, like family reunions that he would otherwise go to. He is also often called into the hospital in the middle of the night and has to sacrifice his sleep.

Mark Koenemann, COLLEGE II – ST. LOUIS



One of the priests for me who represents sacrificial love is **Fr. David Skillman, Class of 2009 – St. Louis**. He truly gives every ounce of his being in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, his faith, and his parishioners. There is never a moment in his presence that you don't feel God's love through him.

Jax Byington, COLLEGE I – ST. LOUIS

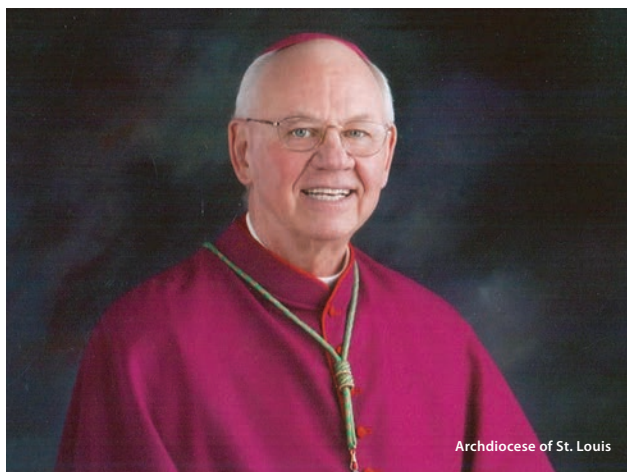


Fr. Tom Vordtriede, Class of 2014 – St. Louis, has represented sacrificial love in my life. He divides his time between his parish assignment and my high school, St Pius X. Because of the time he devoted to the school my senior year, his spiritual guidance and example helped me to search for the will of God. That searching has led me here, to the seminary.

Alexander Rickert, COLLEGE II – KANSAS CITY, KS



An associate at my home parish and later my spiritual director in high school, **Fr. Alessandro Borraccia**, has represented sacrificial love to me since seventh grade. Fr. Alessandro followed God's call to join the Apostles of the Interior Life several years ago, moving thousands of miles away from his family and friends in Italy. He gives of himself freely to parishioners and develops deep relationships with them, but obeys joyfully when moved from one parish to the next.



A Tribute to Bishop Paul A. Zipfel

BISHOP PAUL A. ZIPFEL, Class of 1961, died on July 14, 2019. Bishop Zipfel served as a pastor and auxiliary bishop in the Archdiocese of St. Louis until he was appointed the Bishop of Bismarck, ND by St. Pope John Paul II in 1996. Bishop Zipfel served in Bismarck until 2011 and later returned to St. Louis to be closer to his family.

Bishop Zipfel leaves behind a lasting priestly legacy, as recounted by Bishop Robert J. Hermann, who served with him at Holy Cross parish in St. Louis for four years. *"Bishop Zipfel was a beloved pastor, an exceptional homilist, and a great confessor. He was such a cheerful and joyful person with whom to live."*

In Memoriam

Fr. Francis M. Agnew, CM
Former Faculty

Fr. Mark A. Berland
Class of 1974 – Salina

Fr. Donald L. Buhr
Class of 1966 – St. Louis

Fr. Gerald L. Bunse
Class of 1983 – Springfield, IL

Msgr. William M. Carr
Class of 1959 – Wichita

Fr. Robert N. Deming
Class of 1958 – Kansas City-St. Joseph

Fr. Eugene P. Selzer
Class of 1961 – St. Louis

Most Rev. Paul A. Zipfel
Class of 1961 – Bishop Emeritus of Bismarck

HIGHLIGHTS

Nearly 200 women gathered at the seminary for a **Fiat Morning of Recollection** on the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in August 2019. The event, led by Fr. Paul Hoelsing, was open to the public and focused on the relationship, identity, and mission of Mary. Further information about the Fiat Women's Group, including recordings of past sessions, is available on the Fiat website: kenrick.edu/fiat.

In April, the Roman Catholic Foundation of Eastern Missouri presented **"The Conversation: A Catholic Perspective on End-of-Life Issues"** at the seminary. Nearly 150 guests attended the free seminar, which covered topics such as Catholic bioethics, advance directives and estate planning, charitable gift planning, and funeral and cemetery planning. Many of the Foundation's resources are available online at rcfstl.org.

Dr. Steve Barr, Founder and President of the Society of Catholic Scientists, will present "Science and Religion: The Myth of Conflict" at the **24th Annual Peter Richard Kenrick Lecture** on Thursday, November 14, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium. The Class of 1944 established this lecture series to foster the spiritual and academic growth of priests, deacons, and others who serve the Church. The lecture is free and open to the public. More information is available online at kenrick.edu/kenrick-lecture.



Alumni-priests from various classes and dioceses gathered at the seminary for the annual **Alumni Day** celebration on October 2, 2019. During the event, priests from the Classes of 1994, 1969, and 1959 were honored for their Silver, Gold, and Diamond Jubilees. Msgr. Vernon Gardin, Class of 1971 – St. Louis and Lecturer of Pastoral Theology, received the Distinguished Alumnus Award. The alumni and seminary community are grateful to these priests for their impact in the life of the Church around the world. ✚

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: Mr. John Federer

By Daniel Mauro, College IV — Kansas City, KS

MR. JOHN FEDERER, husband of Lisa Federer and father of four children, is the Chair of the Finance Committee for the seminary's Board of Trustees. A Board member since 2013, Mr. Federer brings extensive experience in investment and property management to the Board.

When asked the reason behind his commitment to the seminary, Mr. Federer immediately pointed to the Eucharist. The logic is simple; he states, *"I believe the Eucharist is the heart of the Church; the only way to have the Eucharist is through the priesthood."* From this lens Mr. Federer sees Kenrick-Glennon Seminary as *"the center of the future of our faith."* For him, helping the seminary to be the best it can be means he is promoting the integrity of the priesthood and, consequently, protecting the Eucharist.

Mr. Federer would be the first to say that this work is not just for a few, but a task for all the faithful. He encourages all those who may feel a desire to give more to the seminary to consider attending the annual Convivium Dinner Auction as he does each year with family and friends. While Mr. Federer has learned many things from his time serving this Eucharistic-centered community, he has especially learned just how *"world-class"* Kenrick is due to the love and hard work provided by Archbishop Robert Carlson, Fr. James Mason, and many others. Mr. Federer calls the seminary *"the best of the West"* and, as a seminarian, I couldn't agree more. ✚



Mr. Federer with his wife and friends at the 2018 Convivium Dinner Auction.

27th Annual Convivium Dinner Auction

Saturday, November 2, 2019

Chase Park Plaza Royal Sonesta St. Louis
kenrick.edu/convivium

ALTAR DEDICATION in the St. Charles Borromeo College Chapel

On Thursday, September 19th, the seminarians, faculty, and formators of Cardinal Glennon College witnessed the dedication of a new altar in the St. Charles Borromeo College Chapel. The white Italian marble altar, carved with an image of the Lamb of God and a book with seven scrolls, was a gift to the college seminary from the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. The altar weighs nearly 2,000 pounds and is a perfect fit.

The rite of dedication, which included anointing with chrism, burning of incense, and the installation of the relics of St. Maria Goretti and St. Thomas Aquinas, was celebrated by Archbishop Robert J. Carlson. He addressed the college seminarians in his homily, *"Know how proud I am of you all and that I pray for you daily. In consecrating this altar today, it becomes more than simply a beautiful piece of marble: it becomes a place where you and I will meet every day with all of the saints and angels and all of Christ's faithful in the world."*

The former wooden altar furnishings now reside in the chapel in the Convent of St. Therese of Lisieux.



2018-19 ANNUAL REPORT

OUR SEMINARY is known around the country as a model of integrated seminary formation. These two dimensions of formation are especially important in the current culture as our Church struggles to reform itself after another wave of abuse scandals.

In February 2019, *First Things* published an article, **U.S. Seminaries Today: Not What They Used to Be**, written by President-Rector, Fr. James Mason, in which he addresses important seminary reforms that have taken place in the United States since 2002. In the article, Fr. Mason also highlights his vision of priestly formation as practiced at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary:

My faculty and I tell our seminarians that their number one responsibility is to make themselves known: to be transparent, honest, and generous in formation. If they're going to do that, then we need faculty and formation advisers who have the capacity to receive their generous transparency, and who can lead these men to continued growth in healthiness and holiness...

Bringing the goods of family life into the formation process is another great aid in building a mature seminary culture. The consistent observations and input of our laity have proven crucial in assessing a seminarian's progress in formation. Bottom-line questions like "Would you want this man as your pastor?" or "Would you want this man to minister to your family?" lead to honest and invaluable insights from the lay members of our staff.

In the past, too many priests "got through" seminary formation thanks to clear intellectual gifts, and perhaps even some

notable pastoral skills. But the Church's experience with priestly attrition and dereliction over the past fifty years has underscored the imperative need to address immaturity in a man's human and spiritual life during his priestly formation. Many American seminaries today have assembled the personnel and have begun to create the programs that address this immaturity and lead to real growth.

Real reform is underway—and has been underway for at least a decade and a half. What's needed now, in our seminaries, is a deeper integration of that vision of an integrated spiritual, intellectual, pastoral, and human formation of future priests, a deeper cultivation of the personnel who bring that vision to even more vibrant life, and further development of the tools that can help us accomplish what we describe as our mission at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary: configuring men to the heart of Jesus Christ.

U.S. Seminaries Today: Not What They Used to Be by Fr. Mason is available in its entirety at kenrick.edu.

1 The soccer team enjoyed a weekend of friendly competition with seminarians from across the country at Conception Seminary's tournament in October.



2 His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan, CGC Class of 1972, and Archbishop of New York, led a Day of Recollection for the seminarians in October, challenging them to maintain a steady prayer life and to continue to form their lives in the image of Christ.



3 Seminarians from Belize enjoyed the first snow of the year in November.



4 During their trip to the Holy Land, the Class of 2019 renewed their baptismal promises in the Jordan River.

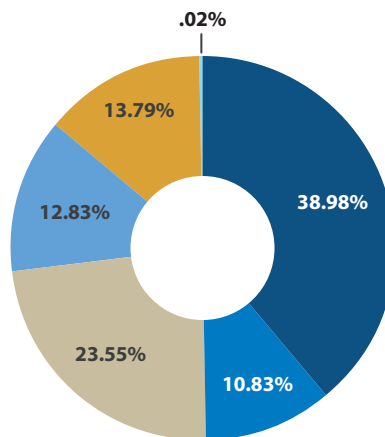


FISCAL YEAR 2019: JULY 1, 2018 – JUNE 30, 2019

KENRICK-GLENNON SEMINARY is governed by the principles of good stewardship in the planning, development, and use of its financial resources. These are deployed to support the purpose of the seminary effectively and to enable it to achieve its mission and goals. Revenues, expenditures, and capital projects are budgeted with consultation from administrators, staff, and faculty and submitted for review and approval by the Board of Trustees and the Board of Directors.

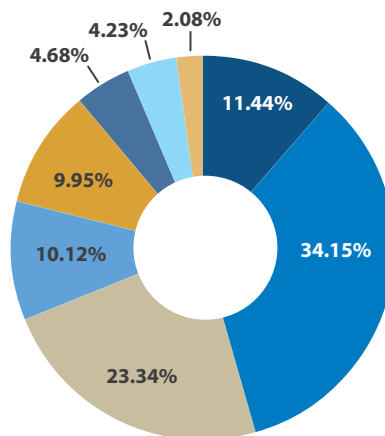
REVENUE

Contributions	\$ 2,898,049
ACA and Other Grants	805,283
Tuition	1,750,976
Fees and Services	954,286
Investment Income	1,025,764
Other Revenue	1,791
Total Revenue	\$ 7,436,149



EXPENSES

Administration	\$ 1,003,192
Kitchen and Facilities	2,995,132
Kenrick Instruction	2,046,998
Kenrick Formation	887,703
Glennon College	873,338
Institutional Advancement	410,404
Library and Bookstore	370,921
Worship	182,804
Total Expenses	\$ 8,770,492



Please note that the expenses include a large amount of depreciation, a non-cash item. This unaudited report excludes contributions and expenses associated with the Faith for the Future Capital Campaign and the renovations project.

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Bishop Mark Rivotuso
(Vice President)
Ms. Nancy Werner
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(Secretary)

This is the current Board listing as of July 30, 2019.

FORMATION: Making Myself an Open Book

By Alex Cammarata, College II — St. Louis

Entering seminary out of high school was a very natural decision for me. I had been attending retreats and camps, and building friendships with seminarians since the beginning of my high school years. When I visited the seminary, I experienced a tremendous sense of peace and enjoyed being there. I took these experiences and feelings as a clear sign that seminary was where God was calling me.

As I began my freshman year of college seminary, I thought I had it all figured out: get good grades, make yourself look good in front of the formation staff, persevere through eight years of formation, and, just like that, you are ordained. How hard could this be? It didn't take me long to find the answer to this question.

The first lesson I learned in seminary was that it was not going to be easy. Within the first two weeks, I was charged with making a growth plan and having difficult conversations with the formation team about how I needed to improve. I realized that, if I was to continue on in formation, I had to get rid of my surface level mentality. The reality was and is that I need to make myself an open book so that I can appropriately discern both on my own and with the Church. I am not doing myself or the Church any favors by not reaching to the depths of my heart to give everything I have to formation.

Seminary is not easy, and it is not supposed to be. Our world demands heroic priests and that need will not be met with a relaxed attitude towards formation. Out of love for God, the Church, and the people of God, I desire the best formation possible to allow me to serve heroically as a priest of Jesus Christ, God-willing. By the grace of God, He has given me the desire to open myself up more and more every day and to give myself more fully to formation.



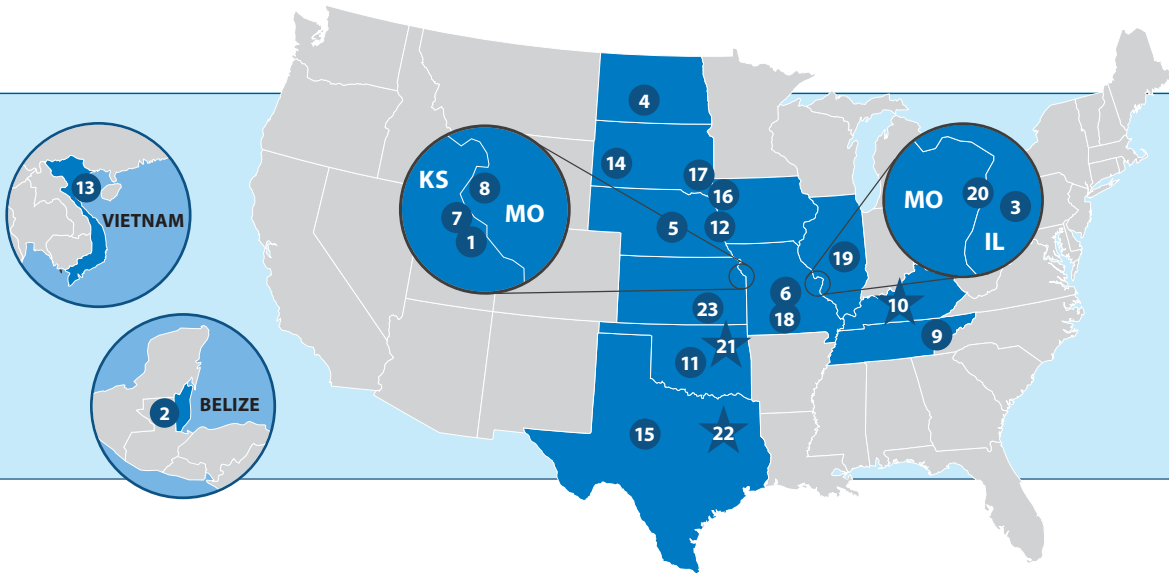
The reality was and is that I need to make myself an open book so that I can appropriately discern both on my own and with the Church.

- 1 Seminarians traveled to Washington, DC for the 46th Annual March for Life in January.
- 2 The seminary received a statue of St. Louis, King of France, as a gift from the Little Sisters of the Poor as they departed St. Louis.
- 3 The seminary hosted its annual Open House in February. Guests enjoyed seminarian-guided tours of the campus as well as refreshments in the refectory.
- 4 Friends and family gathered at St. Joseph Parish in Cottleville, MO for Cardinal Glennon College's annual Trivia Night in May.



STUDENTS BY DIOCESE/ARCHDIOCESE

- **THE DOTS** on the map below indicate dioceses that currently send seminarians to Kenrick-Glennon Seminary.
- ★ **THE STARS** indicate new sending dioceses during the 2019-2020 academic year.



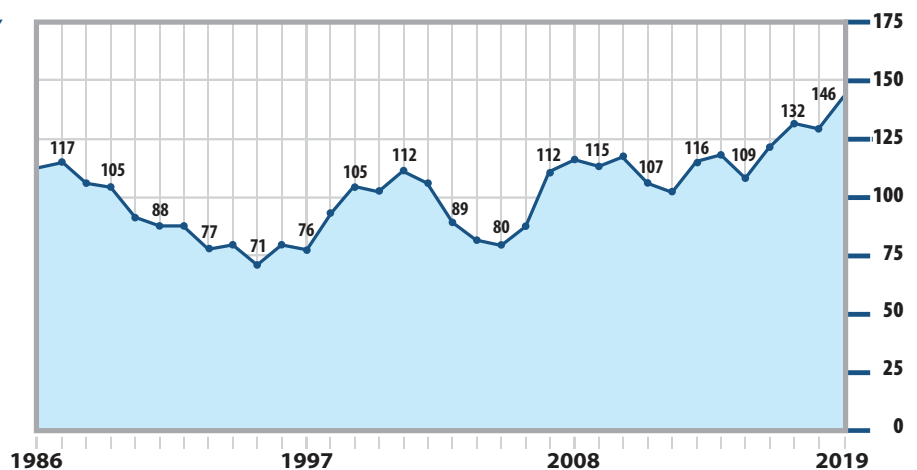
Diocese/Archdiocese/Religious Order	TOTAL
1 Apostles of the Interior Life*	2
2 Belize City-Belmopan, Belize	3
3 Belleville, IL	4
4 Bismarck, ND	10
5 Grand Island, NE	3
6 Jefferson City, MO	3
7 Kansas City, KS	10
8 Kansas City-St. Joseph, MO	7
9 Knoxville, TN	3
★ 10 Louisville, KY	2
11 Oklahoma City, OK	7
12 Omaha, NE	9

Diocese/Archdiocese/Religious Order	TOTAL
13 Phát Diệm, Vietnam	1
14 Rapid City, SD	3
15 San Angelo, TX	3
16 Sioux City, IA	3
17 Sioux Falls, SD	2
18 Springfield-Cape Girardeau, MO	6
19 Springfield, IL	5
20 St. Louis, MO	48
★ 21 Tulsa, OK	4
★ 22 Tyler, TX	1
23 Wichita, KS	6

*The Apostles of the Interior Life is a religious community in the Archdiocese of Kansas City in KS.

ENROLLMENT HISTORY FROM 1986-2019

The numbers in the graph reflect enrollment at the beginning of the academic year and include all full-time seminarians.





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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER

Saturday, November 2: 27th Annual Convivium Mass & Dinner Auction

Thursday, November 14: 24th Annual Peter Richard Kenrick Lecture

November 22-24: Junior/Senior Retreat

November 27-December 1: Thanksgiving Break

DECEMBER

December 4-12: Advent Novena

Wednesday, December 25: Christmas Day

Saturday, December 28: Holy Land Experience Begins

JANUARY

Monday, January 13: Spring Classes Begin for Cardinal Glennon College

January 13-15: Student Workshops

Thursday, January 16: Spring Classes Begin for Theology

Friday, January 17: Holy Land Experience Ends

January 23-26: March for Life in Washington, DC

FEBRUARY

February 14-16: 40 Hours Devotion

Sunday, February 23: Seminary Open House

Wednesday, February 26: Ash Wednesday



OUR MISSION

Kenrick-Glennon Seminary is a proper ecclesial community of the Archdiocese of Saint Louis preparing men for the ministerial priesthood of Jesus Christ in the Catholic Church.

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and to the glory of God the Father, we seek each seminarian's configuration to the Heart of Jesus Christ, High Priest and Shepherd, so that he can shepherd wholeheartedly with Christ's pastoral charity.

STAY CONNECTED



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